THE WALSINGHAM BOOK FOR MARYMONTH

COLIN STEPHENSON

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Being a Spiritual Pilgrimage to some ancient English shrine of Our Lady for each day in May

How worthily is she honoured of men, whom the Angel proclaimed Beloved of God. O Blessed Mary! he cannot bless thee, he cannot honour thee too much that deifies thee not. That which the Angel said of thee thou hast prophesied of thyself; we believe the Angel and thee. All generations shall call thee Blessed, by the Fruit of whose Womb all generations are blessed.

The Right Reverend Joseph Hall,
Lord Bishop of Norwich

Preface

This book is based on an idea of Edmund Waterton, and owes much to his monumental work 'Pietas Mariana Britannica'. Its adaptation and much of the work of compilation has been done by Hedley Hope-Nicholson who has been always a doughty champion of the rights and titles of Our Blessed Lady.

There are many ways of observing the month of May by special devotions, spiritual reading, the Rosary, the Litany of Loretto, but the idea of this little book is to make a spiritual pilgrimage each day and recite one's prayers as though one were indeed privileged to be at that particular shrine in person.

Our forefathers had a great love and tender devotion to Our Lord's Mother and this was expressed in the care and reverence they had for her shrines in this land, once known as Our Lady's Dowry. At all these places much prayer was offered, much love, much sacrifice, and although many of them are ruined and destroyed, by visiting them in spirit we can claim part in the great graces which have been poured out there.

Spiritual Pilgrimages

The soul that loveth ascendeth very often and runneth up and down familiarly in the streets of the heavenly Jerusalem, visiting the Patriarchs and Prophets, saluting the Apostles, admiring the armies of Martyrs and Confessors and considering the quires of Virgins.

St. Augustine's Manual Chap. XXIV

A Panegyric on the Blessed Virgin

Put off thy shoes, 'tis Holy Ground,
For here the flaming *Bush* is found,
The mystic *Rose*, the Ivory *Tower*,
The morning *Star*, and *David's Bower*
The *Rod* of Moses, and of *Jesse*,
The *Fountain* sealed, *Gideon's Fleece*,
A *Woman* clothed with the *Sun*,
The beauteous *Throne* of *Solomon*,
The *Garden* shut, the living *Spring*,
The *Tabernacle* of the *King*,
The *Altar* breathing Sacred Fume,
The *Heaven* distilling Honey-comb,
The untouched *Lily* full of Dew,
A *Mother*, yet a *Virgin* true,
Before and after she brought forth
Our *Ransom* of Eternal Worth,
Both God and Man. . .

(*Anthony Stafford, The Female Glory*, 1635, *a book approved by William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury and William Juxon, Bishop of London.*)

Walsingham

O England great cause thou hast glad for to be
Compared to the Land of Promise, Sion,
Thou attainest my grace to stand in that degree
Through this gracious Lady's supplication
To be called in every realm and region
The Holy Land, Our Lady's Dowry;
Thus art thou named of old antiquity.
And this is the cause, as it appeareth by likeliness,
In thee is builded New Nazareth, a mansion
To the honour of the Heavenly Empress
And of her most glorious Salutation,
When Gabriel said at Old Nazareth, 'Ave',
This Joy here daily remembered for to be.

Pynson Ballad

PRAYERS TO BE SAID EACH DAY OF THE MONTH

O most Blessed Virgin Mother of God, conceived without original sin, in mind and spirit I visit thy churches, altars, and shrines, venerated by our forefathers in this land once acknowleged as thy Dowry, but more especially today I wish to place myself before thy Shrine at
humbly seeking to be numbered amongst the pilgrims who have sought thee in this place and to receive through thy prayers those graces which have ever flowed from thy Sanctuaries.

O Alone of all women, Mother and Virgin, Mother most happy, Virgin most pure; now we, impure as we are, come to see thee who art all pure; we worship thee; as best we may with our humble offerings. May thy Son grant us that, imitating thy most holy manners, we may also, by the grace of the Holy Ghost, deserve spiritually to conceive the Lord Jesus in our inmost soul, and once conceived, never to lose Him. Amen.

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who, when dying on the Cross, didst deign in kindness to give the Blessed Virgin Mary, Thy Mother, to us for our Mother; grant that we, mindful of such tenderness, may, by innocence of life and true devotion, prove ourselves worthy sons of Blessed Mary.

O gracious Lady, glory of Jerusalem, Cypress of Syon and Joy of Israel, Rose of Jericho and Star of Bethlehem, O gracious Lady our asking do

not repell, In mercy all women ever thou dost excell, Therefore blessed Lady grant them great grace, to all that thee devoutly visit in this place. Our Lady of pray for us.

(The panegyric for Each Day of the month is taken from the Akathistos Hymn which is one of the Great Marian Devotions of the Eastern Orthodox Church.)

FIRST DAY

Holy Mary, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Glastonbury.

This is perhaps the first shrine dedicated to Our Lady in the world, certainly it is the most ancient sanctuary in England. Tradition says that Joseph of Arimathea built a little oratory of wreathed twigs here, but our earliest records claim it to be 'a holy and ancient spot, chosen and sanctified by God in honour of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, Mother of God.' It was a great centre of pilgrimage and devotion, which has been revived in recent years.

Hail, thou thro' whom all gladness shineth;
Hail thou thro' whom the curse declineth.
Hail, thou of fallen Adam the restoration;
Hail thou of Eva's tears the reparation.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

SECOND DAY

Holy Mother of God, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady Undercroft in Canterbury Cathedral.

This shrine is situated in the Crypt exactly under the High Altar. From the existing niche it is probable that it was a standing figure of Our Lady. It was a great place of pilgrimage for those coming to venerate St. Thomas. Erasmus writes: 'From the Shrine of St. Thomas we returned to the Crypt. Here the Virgin Mother has an abode, but somewhat dark, inclosed within a double screen of iron, for fear of thieves, for indeed I never saw a thing more laden with riches. When lamps were brought, we beheld more than a royal spectacle, which in beauty far surpassed that of Walsingham.' In recent years the niche has again been filled with a superb figure carved in the baroque style from a single tusk of ivory.

Hail, height unscal'd by mind of mortal man;
Hail, deep more vast than angel's eyes can scan.
Hail, for thou art the Saviour's royal throne;
Hail, thou the womb where God made man is born.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

THIRD DAY

Holy Virgin of Virgins, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady at the Red Ark in York Minster.

This 'Rubea Arca' was a chest placed against the south side of the south-east pier of the large tower to receive offerings for the maintenance of the Cathedral fabric. Above it stood an image of Our Lady which became an object of great devotion and pilgrimage. The modern pilgrim will find a shrine of Our Lady in the Minster which may be invoked under her ancient titles associated with this venerable sanctuary.

Hail, thou who know'st designs unsearchable;
Hail, thou entrusted with things ineffable.
Hail, thou first of all Christ's miracles;
Hail, the fulfilling of Christ's parables.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

FOURTH DAY

Mother most pure, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady at the North Door of Westminster Abbey.

As this statue was adorned with 'a cope of cloth of gold', it was probably in the transept near the door, and not in the exterior niche which shelters a restored statue. The north door of churches were often dedicated to Our Lady and there are several instances in England of there being particularly venerated images of Our Lady at this position. Our Lady was also venerated in the Abbey under the curious title of Our Lady of Pewe, which is probably a corruption of Our Lady of Pity.

Hail, thou heavenly ladder God descendeth;
Hail, thou the bridge for man, in Heaven
which endeth.
Hail, marvellous theme of angel's exultation;
Hail, thou the cause of demons' lamentation.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

FIFTH DAY

Mother most lovable, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Grace at the Pillar in St. Paul's Cathedral.

This was the second pillar from the steeple westwards on the south side of old St. Paul's. It is described by Dugdale as 'a glorious image of the Virgin, fixt to the pillar at the foot of Sir John de Beauchamp's tomb.' Bishop Barnet of Bath and Wells made a grant to ensure the burning of a lamp there every night and that those in Quire should go after Mattins each day and sing an Anthem of Our Lady before the shrine. In recent times several images of Our Lady have been restored in the Cathedral.

Hail, mystic Mother, source of light revealed;
Hail, thou whose heart the way of grace concealed.
Hail, thou who outshin'st the wisdom of the wise;
Hail, who enlightenest faithful prophet's eyes.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

SIXTH DAY

Mother of the Saviour, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady at the oak, Islington.

This may have been in the open air or a small chapel near an oak tree. It was a rich and much frequented shrine and singled out by Cromwell for special destruction the image being publicly burned at Chelsea at the same time as Our Lady of Walsingham.

Hail, thou the branch of an unwithering root;
Hail, thou the garden of untainted fruit.
Hail, thou who tendest Him who tendeth man;
Hail, thou who plantest Him who all things began.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

SEVENTH DAY

Virgin most prudent, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Willesden.

A very ancient pilgrimage to an image set up in the parish church and Our Lady of Willesden is often mentioned. In 1538 the image was found to be of wood, the colour of ebony, and plated with silver except the upper part. It was clothed in robes of sarcenet, with a veil of lace embroidered with pearls and jewels and gold and silver.

Hail, thou of loving kindness harvest-field;
Hail, table bearing Pity's plenteous yield.
Hail, thou who dost bedeck the flow'ry mead;
Hail, thou who to their haven souls dost lead.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

EIGHTH DAY

Virgin most venerable, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Muswell.

This shrine stood on the hill which separates Hornsey from Finchley Common, not far from Alexandra Palace. Here there was a miraculous well which had sprung to great fame as it was recounted that a King of Scotland who had some disease was supernaturally informed that there was a well in England called Muswell which would cure him. After a long search he found it and was cured and from that time it was much frequented by sick persons and was cared for by the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem.

Hail, thou acceptable incense burning;
Hail, thou salvation, to the whole world
turning.
Hail, bearer of God's balm for pain;
Hail, bearer of man's prayers to God again.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

NINTH DAY

Virgin most powerful, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Oxford.

To this image St. Edmund of Abingdon, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, affianced himself with a golden ring when he was a youth. It is thought to have been the image in the church of the Blackfriars, or it may have been that in the Chapel on the wall incorporated into Hertford College known as Our Lady of Smith Gate. The door of this Chapel with a charming carving of the Annunciation above it can still be seen. The modern pilgrim can venerate the shrine of Our Lady of Joy in the Church of St. Mary Magdalen not far from this spot.

Hail, our defence against our unseen foes;
Hail, Gate of Heaven which dost never close.
Hail, because Heaven with the earth rejoices;
Hail, because Heaven and earth join voices;
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TENTH DAY

Virgin most clement, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Grace at Cambridge.

This shrine was in the church of the Blackfriars, now Emmanuel College. The black image now in the Roman Catholic church which was found on this site is too late in date to be the one which 'had much pilgrimage unto her, and specially at (the time of) Sturbridge Fair.' There is a story of the miraculous conversion of a student called William who in spite of a vicious life had continued to invoke Our Lady at this shrine.

Hail, the foundation of our faith unbroken;
Hail, of all graces the effulgent token.
Hail, thou bright star of the human story;
Hail, thou by whom we all are clad with glory.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

ELEVENTH DAY

Virgin most faithful, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Coventry.

This shrine was in the church founded by Earl Leofric and his pious wife Lady Godiva early in the eleventh century. Godiva, who is remembered chiefly for her supposed ride through Coventry, was renowned in her own day for her great devotion to Our Blessed Lady. In fact the Chronicler's phrase that she 'denuded herself' for the making of sacred images may be the basis of the legend. It is recorded that she had a rich chaplet of precious gems on which she counted her prayers. On her death-bed, she desired that this chaplet should be hung round the neck of Our Lady of Coventry, whom she had so dearly loved.

Hail, who dost drive from out his realm the foe;
Hail, who mankind's true friend in Christ dost shew.
Hail, who redeemest us from pagan rites;
Hail, who dost shield our eyes from evil sights.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWELFTH DAY

Mirror of Justice, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Grace of Ipswich.

This image associated with many miracles was venerated in St. Mary's chapel outside the west gate of the city and opposite the George Inn, where the name of Lady Lane is still in use. It was one of the great sanctuaries of Our Lady to which Englishmen were in the habit of making a yearly pilgrimage, and was therefore very rich. The image of Our Lady of Ipswich was taken to Chelsea and burned at the same time as Our Lady of Walsingham, while the rich offerings and jewels given by devout hands went, as a matter of course, into the King's treasury.

Hail, who dost make the cult of fire to cease;
Hail, who from flames of passion dost release.
Hail, who dost free us from the lion's tooth;
Hail, who dost lead the faithful unto truth.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

THIRTEENTH DAY

Seat of Wisdom, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Thetford.

This was an ancient statue dating from the time when the bishopric was at Thetford. Many miracles are recounted in connection with this statue and it was much frequented by pilgrims. It may still be in existence in a Howard tomb at Framlingham, in which statuary from Thetford was found, but replaced.

Hail, thou who raisest up again mankind;
Hail, thou the downcast demons who dost bind.
Hail, who dost tread all falsehood on the ground;
Hail, who deceiving idols dost confound.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

FOURTEENTH DAY

Cause of our joy, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In Commemoration of Our Lady of Woolpit.

This was a shrine in the Lady Chapel of a Suffolk parish church and was of great repute in the county and an object of local pilgrimage. Our Lady of Woolpit is much mentioned in wills as an object of benefaction. In a meadow near the church is a well, called Ladye's Well, which formed part of the pilgrimage and whose waters were credited with curative properties.

Hail, firey pillar leading thro' the night;
Hail, bearer of the holiest delight.
Hail, Promised Land for which we seek;
Hail, giving milk and honey to the weak.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

FIFTEENTH DAY

Spiritual vessel, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Abingdon.

The church here in honour of Our Lady was founded as early as 675 A.D. together with a monastery for twelve Benedictine monks. It became richly endowed, as our Anglo-Saxon forefathers were not backward 'to make God and Our Lady their heirs', as they described their benefactions. It was a great centre of pilgrimage, for St. Edward the Martyr and St. Dunstan ordained that it should be lawful for the people to make pilgrimages, for the sake of devotion, to the Church of Our Lady of Abingdon.

Hail, thou lovely flower that fadest never;
Hail, thou crown of chastity for ever.
Hail, of angelic life the recollection;
Hail, shining witness of the resurrection.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

SIXTEENTH DAY

Tower of David, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Pity in the Galilee at Durham.

At the west end of Durham Cathedral stands the remarkable Galilee built as a Lady Chapel, an exception to the almost invariable English rule that this should be placed east of the presbytery. 'On the north syde of the said Galliley was an altar called the Ladye of Pitties Alter, with her pictur carryinge our Saviour on hir knee as He was taiken from the Crosse, a very dolorouse aspecte'. The Lady-Mass each day was said at this altar and it was greatly venerated by pilgrims. The shrine of the Venerable Bede, a great lover of Our Lady, still remains in the Galilee.

Hail, fairest tree whose fruit the faithful
feedeth;
Hail, welcome wood which shelterest him
who needeth,
Hail, who nurst Him by whom the wanderer's
saved;
Hail, who bear Him, Redeemer of the enslaved.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

SEVENTEENTH DAY

Ark of the Covenant, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady on the Bridge at Wakefield.

This Chantry in honour of Our Lady on Calder Bridge seems to have been built just before 1357. It was served by two Chantry Priests who said Mass for the pilgrims who came here in great numbers. Travellers entering the town would first stop here and venerate Our Lady. These bridge chapels were not uncommon in the middle ages, as the charming survivals at Bradford-on-Avon and St. Ives, Hunts, witness. The original front of the Wakefield Chapel was taken down in 1848 and re-erected in the grounds of Kettlethorpe Hall as a summer-house.

Hail, thou on whom the righteous judge hath
smiled;
Hail, thro' whom countless sinners are recon-
ciled.
Hail, O white robe of honour for th'oppressed;
Hail, perfect love that all desire suppressed.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

EIGHTEENTH DAY

Gate of Heaven, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of the White Friars, Doncaster.

This shrine, as the name suggests, was in the church of the Carmelite friars who were established in Doncaster in 1350. In wills and other documents it is sometimes called quite simply Our Lady of Doncaster. In 1517 Henry VIII paid £4 to maintain a light at this shrine for four years. The Earl of Northumberland used every year to pay for a candle to burn before Our Lady of the White Friars during the time of Mass.

Hail, thou boundary of God unbounded;
Hail, thou depth of holy things unsounded.
Hail, tidings of confusion to unbelievers;
Hail, glory unconfus'd to true receivers.
Hail, mother Immaculate!

NINETEENTH DAY

Morning star, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady at the Pillar, St. Edmundsbury.

This was one of the Shrines in St. Mary's Church which was renowned for its numerous altars, images and pictures. The venerable image which went by this title stood against the pillar next to the parclose screen of St. Mary's altar. One of the monks, Dom Galfrid Waterton, wrote about the year 1350 a book on the Angelical Salutation, and another a Mariale, or a treatise in praise of Our Blessed Lady, which shows that she had devoted clients in this place.

Hail, holy chariot of Him above the Cherubim;
Hail, highest throne of Him above the Seraphim.
Hail, who hast contradiction reconciled;
Hail, to thee Mother yet maiden undefiled.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTIETH DAY

Health of the sick, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Evesham.

The church here was begun in 702 A.D. as the result of the apparition of Our Lady to a poor herdsman named Eoves, who has been remembered by having the place called after him. It was a very renowned sanctuary of Our Lady and famous for many miracles wrought there through her prayers. The daily Mass at the shrine was remarkable in being celebrated with twenty-four candles and thirty-three lamps burning.

Hail, who the wisdom of our God enfoldest;
Hail, who the treasure of His providence holdest.
Hail, who exposest the dullness of the schools;
Hail, who dost strike the wise men dumb as fools.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-FIRST DAY

Refuge of sinners, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of the Four Candles, St. Alban's.

This altar in the Abbey church at St. Alban's was so called because four candles, offered by four officials of the abbey, were lighted daily during the celebration of Mass. A Mass of Our Lady was sung every day by six monks in rotation. In addition to this two Masses were usually celebrated every day at this altar, for the church and for the dead. Every week there was a procession of the monks to this altar in honour of Our Lady. One monk was appointed to be the guardian and attendant of Our Lady's Altar.

Hail, no mind so wise as to master thy glories;
Hail, now are put to silence the tellers of stories.
Hail, thou against Athenian straitness going;
Hail, filling fisher's nets to overflowing.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

THIRD DAY

Holy Virgin of Virgins, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady at the Red Ark in York Minster.

This 'Rubea Arca' was a chest placed against the south side of the south-east pier of the large tower to receive offerings for the maintenance of the Cathedral fabric. Above it stood an image of Our Lady which became an object of great devotion and pilgrimage. The modern pilgrim will find a shrine of Our Lady in the Minster which may be invoked under her ancient titles associated with this venerable sanctuary.

Hail, thou who know'st designs unsearchable;
Hail, thou entrusted with things ineffable.
Hail, thou first of all Christ's miracles;
Hail, the fulfilling of Christ's parables.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-THIRD DAY

Help of Christians, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady in the Park, near Liskeard, Cornwall.

This was a chapel in a wood about half a mile outside Liskeard and as early as the reign of King Edward II it was a great centre of pilgrimage, and it was at that time that it was determined that the vicar of the parish had no right to the offerings left at this shrine. In 1441, Bishop Lacy granted an indulgence to all who contributed to the repair of the road to this chapel.

Hail, mighty pillar of virginity;
Hail, open portal of felicity.
Hail, first-fruit of our spiritual re-birth;
Hail, bearer of God's goodness to the earth.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-FOURTH DAY

Queen of Angels, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady in the Wood, near Epworth, Lincolnshire.

This rustic shrine was situated in the Isle of Axholme. Some measure of the popularity of the pilgrimage here may be gathered from the fact that in 1302 Boniface the Eighth granted the Indulgence of Portiuncula to all who visited it. In the reign of Richard II, Thomas Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham founded a Priory here in honour of Our Lady's Visitation, and the shrine of Our Lady in the Wood was incorporated into it.

Hail, who renewest all conceiv'd in sin;
Hail, who health for sick in mind doth win.
Hail, who dost crush our ghostly enemy;
Hail, who didst bear the giver of chastity.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-FIFTH DAY

Queen of Patriarchs, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Winchester.

This celebrated image stood against the fifth pillar on the south side of the nave, and there was an altar erected before it. The pillars around were adorned with votive offerings and it was a great object of pilgrimage. One of the most devout clients of this shrine was William of Wykeham who used to pray before this image as a boy and showed his devotion by ordering that he should be buried close to it. When he later founded his two colleges he placed them under Our Lady's protection and over the gate of each of them he placed her image with himself kneeling as a votary.

Hail, bride-chamber of wedded purity;
Hail, union of man with divinity.
Hail, playing both mother and virgin roles;
Hail, O thou bridesmaid of all holy souls.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-SIXTH DAY

Queen of Prophets, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Windsor.

The royal chapel popularly known as St. George's was in reality dedicated in honour of Our Blessed Lady, St. George and Edward the Confessor and was a great centre of devotion to the Blessed Virgin. Behind the High Altar was an image made of alabaster, wreathed around with carving like branches with flowers and hanging apples. It is noted that pilgrims came from as far away as Devon and Cornwall. As a pious custom pilgrims used to touch the image and then pass their hand over their face or afflicted part of their body.

Hail, sun which ghostly trails;
Hail, radiance of light that never fails.
Hail, lightening-flash, our souls in darkness lighting;
Hail, thunderbolt, our enemies affrighting.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-SEVENTH DAY

Queen of Apostles, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Peace, Winfarthing, Norfolk.

This shrine was in the parish church and was the object of considerable local pilgrimage and affection in the locality of Diss. One Nathaniel Hallyet was a benefactor and left a piece of land to produce the rent of two shillings a year to maintain a light before Our Lady of Peace.

Hail, radiant in the midst of countless beams;
Hail, plenteous source of inundating streams.
Hail, thou fulfilment of Siloam's rill;
Hail, who dost cleanse from every stain of ill.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-EIGHTH DAY

Queen of Martyrs, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Ardenburgh, in St. Nicholas Church. Yarmouth.

After the great naval victory of Sluys in 1340, Edward III made a pilgrimage on foot to the shrine of Our Lady of Ardenburgh, near Ghent and many of the fleet went with him. There were at least sixty ships from Yarmouth and it would seem probable that some of these men on their return home founded an altar in their parish church to Our Lady of Ardenburgh, for we first hear of it in 1349. Devotion and pilgrims increased and in 1370 a special chapel was built on to the east end of the church and dedicated to Our Lady of Ardenburgh.

Hail, laver that doth wash away our sadness;
Hail, holy cup of all our mingl'd gladness.
Hail, thou sweet oil of the anointed priest;
Hail, who giv'st food to the mysterious feast.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

TWENTY-NINTH DAY

Queen of Confessors, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady at the Oak, St. Martin's, Norwich.

A large oak tree stood in the church-yard and contained the celebrated image which was known as Our Lady of the Oak. This shrine began to come into prominence about the time of Edward II and became much visited by the populace who were able to see her as they passed by and left many gifts in their wills to see that the shrine was always kept in good repair and richly adorned. During the reign of Edward VI the oak was cut down and the image destroyed.

Hail, Tabernacle of the Word of God;
Hail, Aaron's holy budding rod.
Hail, Holy Ark o'ergilded by the Spirit;
Hail, inexhaustible treasury of merit.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

THIRTIETH DAY

Queen of all Saints, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady on the Red Mount, King's Lynn.

The remarkable Chapel which housed this Shrine still exists and was built in 1485. It was frequented largely by pilgrims who landed at Lynn on their way to the Shrine of the Holy House at Walsingham and they were very generous with the offerings they left there. It is a very unusual piece of architecture, preserving the perfect form of a cross although standing within an octagonal wall. It was so contrived that pilgrims were obliged to make a complete circuit of the Chapel before entering. It has been thought by some that the image venerated as Our Lady on the Red Mount was a copy of Our Lady of Walsingham.

Hail, thou of pious kings the precious crown;
Hail, thou of holy priests the true renown.
Hail, thou the church's stronghold, never taken;
Hail, thou the kingdom's bulwark, never shaken.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

THIRTY-FIRST DAY

Queen conceived without original sin, pray for us

PILGRIMAGE. In commemoration of Our Lady of Walsingham.

This Shrine was the most famous sanctuary of Our Blessed Lady in England. The traditional date of the apparition of Our Lady to Richeldis is 1061. At Mary's command she built a replica of the Holy House at Nazareth beside a spring which was found to have curative properties. The venerated image of Our Lady was in the Holy House. This image was burned at Chelsea in the reign of Henry VIII. In 1922 a reproduction of this venerable image taken from the priory seal was carved and set up in the parish church. In 1931 the Holy House was rebuilt on the original site beside the Holy Well and the image translated on October 15th. Thousands of pilgrims visit the shrine every year, Mass is said there every day and intercessions are continually offered. So we make our last spiritual pilgrimage to an ancient shrine which has been completely restored.

Hail, thou by whom our banners are uprais'd;
Hail, thou who by our ancestors wast praised.
Hail, thou the body's health and restoration;
Hail, Holy Mother, every soul's Salvation.
Hail, Mother Immaculate!

Zealous to praise thee, thus we sing, O Mother
worthy of all praise,
Bearer of th'Incarnate Word, holiest above all
Saints:
Save us from every danger, deliver from damnation
All those who with one voice cry

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

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